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9	UNITED STATES BA	NKRUPTCY COURT
10	CENTRAL DISTRIC	CT OF CALIFORNIA
10	LOS ANGEL	ES DIVISION
12	In re	Case No. 2:13-bk-22155-DS
13	NEW MEATCO PROVISIONS, LLC,	CHAPTER 11
13	Debtor,	Adversary Case No
		COMPLAINT
15 16	HOWARD GROBSTEIN, LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE FOR THE NEW MEATCO LIQUIDATING TRUST,	1) TO AVOID FRAUDULENT TRANSFER (ACTUAL INTENT);
17	Plaintiff	2) TO AVOID FRAUDULENT TRANSFER (CONSTRUCTIVE FRAUD)
18	v.	3) TO RECOVER FRAUDULENT TRANSFERS;
19	MORAD HAROUNI, an individual; THE AVISAR FAMILY TRUST, by and through its	4) BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY;
	I A VISAN PAIVIILLENUST. DV and unough us	5) BREACH OF CONTRACT;
20	trustees, EYTAN AVISAR, an individual, and	6) NEGLIGENCE; 7) GROSS NEGLIGENCE;
20 21	trustees, EYTAN AVISAR, an individual, and SUSAN AVISAR, an individual; MEATCO PROVISIONS, INC. a California corporation;	6) NEGLIGENCE; 7) GROSS NEGLIGENCE; 8) CONVERSION
	trustees, EYTAN AVISAR, an individual, and SUSAN AVISAR, an individual; MEATCO PROVISIONS, INC. a California corporation; ROBERT A. FOWLER, an individual; ALEXANDER P. COLEMAN, an individual;	6) NEGLIGENCE; 7) GROSS NEGLIGENCE; 8) CONVERSION DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
21 22	trustees, EYTAN AVISAR, an individual, and SUSAN AVISAR, an individual; MEATCO PROVISIONS, INC. a California corporation; ROBERT A. FOWLER, an individual; ALEXANDER P. COLEMAN, an individual; RICK MAZUR, an individual; JOSHUA GOLDBERG, an individual; AMANT DEWAN,	6) NEGLIGENCE; 7) GROSS NEGLIGENCE; 8) CONVERSION
21 22 23	trustees, EYTAN AVISAR, an individual, and SUSAN AVISAR, an individual; MEATCO PROVISIONS, INC. a California corporation; ROBERT A. FOWLER, an individual; ALEXANDER P. COLEMAN, an individual; RICK MAZUR, an individual; JOSHUA GOLDBERG, an individual; AMANT DEWAN, an individual; MEATCO ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability	6) NEGLIGENCE; 7) GROSS NEGLIGENCE; 8) CONVERSION DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL [11 U.S.C. §§544, 550; Cal. Civ. Code §3439; Fed.R.Bankr.P. 7009; Fed.R.Civ.P. 9]
21 22 23 24	trustees, EYTAN AVISAR, an individual, and SUSAN AVISAR, an individual; MEATCO PROVISIONS, INC. a California corporation; ROBERT A. FOWLER, an individual; ALEXANDER P. COLEMAN, an individual; RICK MAZUR, an individual; JOSHUA GOLDBERG, an individual; AMANT DEWAN, an individual; MEATCO ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; PROSPECT CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Maryland corporation;	6) NEGLIGENCE; 7) GROSS NEGLIGENCE; 8) CONVERSION DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL [11 U.S.C. §§544, 550; Cal. Civ. Code §3439; Fed.R.Bankr.P. 7009; Fed.R.Civ.P. 9] Initial Status Conference Date: TBD
2122232425	trustees, EYTAN AVISAR, an individual, and SUSAN AVISAR, an individual; MEATCO PROVISIONS, INC. a California corporation; ROBERT A. FOWLER, an individual; ALEXANDER P. COLEMAN, an individual; RICK MAZUR, an individual; JOSHUA GOLDBERG, an individual; AMANT DEWAN, an individual; MEATCO ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; PROSPECT CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Maryland corporation; CALME HOLDINGS, INC., a Delaware corporation; DAVID MOSZER, an individual;	6) NEGLIGENCE; 7) GROSS NEGLIGENCE; 8) CONVERSION DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL [11 U.S.C. §§544, 550; Cal. Civ. Code §3439; Fed.R.Bankr.P. 7009; Fed.R.Civ.P. 9] Initial Status Conference Date: TBD Time: TBD Place: Courtroom 1339
21 22 23 24 25 26	trustees, EYTAN AVISAR, an individual, and SUSAN AVISAR, an individual; MEATCO PROVISIONS, INC. a California corporation; ROBERT A. FOWLER, an individual; ALEXANDER P. COLEMAN, an individual; RICK MAZUR, an individual; JOSHUA GOLDBERG, an individual; AMANT DEWAN, an individual; MEATCO ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; PROSPECT CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Maryland corporation; CALME HOLDINGS, INC., a Delaware	6) NEGLIGENCE; 7) GROSS NEGLIGENCE; 8) CONVERSION DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL [11 U.S.C. §§544, 550; Cal. Civ. Code §3439; Fed.R.Bankr.P. 7009; Fed.R.Civ.P. 9] Initial Status Conference Date: TBD Time: TBD Place: Courtroom 1339 United States Bankruptcy Court
2122232425	trustees, EYTAN AVISAR, an individual, and SUSAN AVISAR, an individual; MEATCO PROVISIONS, INC. a California corporation; ROBERT A. FOWLER, an individual; ALEXANDER P. COLEMAN, an individual; RICK MAZUR, an individual; JOSHUA GOLDBERG, an individual; AMANT DEWAN, an individual; MEATCO ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; PROSPECT CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Maryland corporation; CALME HOLDINGS, INC., a Delaware corporation; DAVID MOSZER, an individual; JOHN KNEISLEY, an individual; and DOES 1	6) NEGLIGENCE; 7) GROSS NEGLIGENCE; 8) CONVERSION DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL [11 U.S.C. §§544, 550; Cal. Civ. Code §3439; Fed.R.Bankr.P. 7009; Fed.R.Civ.P. 9] Initial Status Conference Date: TBD Time: TBD Place: Courtroom 1339

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Plaintiff, Howard Grobstein, the duly authorized and acting, liquidating trustee ("*Trustee*" or "*Plaintiff*") for the New Meatco Liquidating Trust, (the "*Trust*"), as the successor in interest to the rights and claims of Debtor and Debtor-In-Possession, New Meatco Provisions, LLC ("*Debtor*"), alleges as follows:

I. NATURE OF PROCEEDING

- 1. By this action the Liquidating Trustee seeks to avoid and recover the approximate \$30 million Defendants Harouni and the Avisar Family Trust obtained from a purported leverage buy out they engineered in April 2011. The Trustee also asserts claims against Harouni for breach of his fiduciary obligations he owed to the Debtor as an officer and director of the Debtor, and for his breach of contractual confidentiality and non-compete obligations he owed to the Debtor, and for conversion as to the Debtor's corporate assets.
- 2. This action also seeks monetary damages for the damages caused by the other Defendants for their breach of fiduciary duty to Debtor and its creditors for failing to act in a reasonable business fashion to preserve the assets of the Debtor for the benefit of the Debtor and its creditors prior to filing for bankruptcy and at the time the Debtor was insolvent.

II. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 3. This Court has jurisdiction over this adversary proceeding because the claims for relief set forth herein are core matters pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334 and 28 U.S.C. §§ 157(a), (b)(2)(A), (b)(2)(H) and (b)(2)(O).
- 4. This Court has jurisdiction over this adversary proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 151, the *Local Bankruptcy Rules* of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California ("*Bankruptcy Court*"), and General Order Number 13-05 of the United States District Court for the Central District of California.
- 5. In addition, this proceeding is a civil proceeding arising in or related to a case under Title 11 of the *United States Code* ("*Bankruptcy Code*"). This adversary proceeding arises in or relates to the bankruptcy case *In re New Meatco Provisions, LLC* case number 2:13-bk-22155-DS ("*Meatco Bankruptcy*").
 - 6. Plaintiff has standing to bring this adversary proceeding pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 323

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- and the Court Approved Third Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of the Official Committee of
- 2 | Unsecured Creditors and New Meatco Provisions, LLC, ("Plan") approved by the Bankruptcy Court
- 3 on August 26, 2014, and the powers and authority granted to Plaintiff under the concurrent
- 4 Liquidating Trust Agreement executed pursuant to the Plan on August 27, 2014. Howard Grobstein
- 5 was appointed the Liquidating Trustee on August 27, 2014, pursuant to the Plan and Liquidating
- 6 Trust Agreement and continues to serve in that capacity. Because the Trustee was not appointed as
- 7 Liquidating Trustee until after the occurrence of the facts alleged in this Complaint, he has no
- 8 personal knowledge of such facts. Accordingly, the Trustee alleges all such facts on information and
- belief based on a review of business records of the Debtor and other records obtained.

III. THE PARTIES

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A. Plaintiff.

- 7. Plaintiff, Howard Grobstein, is the duly authorized and acting Liquidating Trustee for
- 13 the New Meatco Liquidating Trust, the successor in interest to the assets of the Debtor and Debtor-
- 14 In-Possession, New Meatco Provisions, LLC, United States Bankruptcy Court, Central District of
- California, Los Angeles Division, Case No. 2:13-bk-22155-PC. The Trustee acts solely in his
- 16 capacity as the Liquidating Trustee in bringing this action.

B. Defendants.

- 8. Defendant Morad Harouni, ("Harouni"), is a resident of Los Angeles County, State
- 19 of California.
 - 9. Defendant The Avisar Family Trust (the "Avisar Trust") is a family trust established
- 21 under and pursuant to California law.
- 22 10. Defendant Eytan Avisar is sued herein in his capacity as a trustee for the Avisar Trust
- 23 ("E.Avisar"). At all times relevant herein, E.Avisar resided in and/or conducted business in the
- 24 County of Los Angeles, State of California.
- 25 11. Defendant Susan Avisar, ("S.Avisar" and jointly with E.Avisar, the "Avisar
- 26 | Trustees") is sued herein in her capacity as trustee for the Avisar Trust. At all times relevant herein
- 27 | S.Avisar resided in, and/or conducted business in the County of Los Angeles, State of California.
 - 12. Defendant Meatco Provisions, Inc., ("MPI") was, at all times relevant herein, a

- California corporation conducting business in the State of California, within the jurisdiction of this
 Court. MPI is solely owned by Defendant Harouni.
 - 13. Defendant Meatco Acquisition Company, LLC, ("MAC") is a Delaware limited liability company and, at all times relevant herein, was conducting business in the State of California within the jurisdiction of this Court. Upon information and belief, MAC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Annex Capital Advisors, LLC.
 - 14. Defendant Robert A. Fowler, an individual ("*Fowler*"), at all times relevant herein was conducting business in the State of California within the jurisdiction of this Court.
 - 15. Defendant Alexander P. Coleman, an individual ("*Coleman*"), at all times relevant herein was a resident of and/or was conducting business in the State of California within the jurisdiction of this Court.
 - 16. Defendant Rick Mazer, an individual ("*Mazer*"), at all times relevant herein was a resident of and/or was conducting business in the State of California within the jurisdiction of this Court.
 - 17. Defendant Joshua Goldberg, an individual ("*Goldberg*"), at all times relevant herein was a resident of and/or was conducting business in the State of California within the jurisdiction of this Court.
 - 18. Defendant Amant Dewan, an individual ("*Dewan*"), at all times relevant herein was a resident of and/or was conducting business in the State of California within the jurisdiction of this Court.
 - 19. Defendant Prospect Capital Corporation, Inc. ("*Prospect*") is a Maryland corporation and was, at all times relevant herein, conducting business in the State of California, within the jurisdiction of this Court.
 - 20. Defendant Calme Holdings, Inc. ("Calme") is a Delaware corporation and was, at all times relevant herein, conducting business in the State of California, within the jurisdiction of this Court.
 - 21. Defendant David Moszer, an individual ("*Moszer*") was, at all times relevant herein, a resident of and/or was conducting business in the State of California within the jurisdiction of this

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Court.

22. Defendant John Kneisley, an individual ("*Kneisley*") was, at all times relevant herein, a resident of and/or was conducting business in the State of California within the jurisdiction of this Court.

C. DOE Defendants

23. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names of Defendants DOES 1 through 10 inclusive and has sued them by the foregoing fictitious names, and states that when their true names are discovered, the Complaint will be amended to include their true names.

D. Agency Allegations

- 24. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that each of the named Defendants and DOES 1 through 10, (collectively the "Defendants" and each individually a "Defendant") are and/or were the partners, principals, servants, employees, employers, agents, representatives, subsidiaries, affiliates, joint venturers, and/or the alter-egos of each other Defendant and each Defendant was otherwise acting in concert with, aided and abetted, and acting in furtherance of a civil conspiracy with each other Defendant, in doing all things herein alleged, and was acting within the purpose and scope of their authority as such partners, principals, servants, employees, employers, agents, representatives, subsidiaries, affiliates, joint venturers, and/or the alter-ego relationship with each other Defendant, and engaged in the conduct that was authorized, ratified, approved and/or otherwise sanctioned with advanced knowledge or subsequent ratification or acquiescence by each other Defendant.
- 25. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges that each of the Defendants were responsible, negligently, intentionally and/or in some actionable manner, including as corporate successors liable for the acts of their predecessors, for the events referred to herein, and caused injuries and damages legally to Plaintiff, as alleged, either through each Defendants' own conduct, or through the conduct of each Defendants' agents, servants, employees, aiders and abettors, and co-conspirators, or due to the ownership, maintenance, or control of the instrumentality causing the injury to Plaintiff, or in some other actionable manner.

IV. STATEMENT OF FACTS APPLICABLE TO ALL CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

A. Background

26. Commencing in or around 1988 and up until April 2011, Morad Harouni and the Avisar Trust each owned a 50% interest in MPI, an importer and distributor of refrigerated and frozen protein products to approximately 2,000 Hispanic grocery stores and bodegas in Southern and Central California. Its products included meat, poultry, and seafood, with its seafood offerings being marketed under the name King Seafood. MPI operated out of a 191,270 square foot, leased facility located just south of downtown Los Angeles.

B. The Financing Scheme and Acquisition of the Debtor by MAC

- 27. On or about April 11, 2011, Harouni and the Avisar Trustees formed a California limited liability company, New Meatco Provisions, LLC ("Debtor") with MPI as the Debtor's sole member. Thereafter Harouni and the Avisar Trustees caused MPI to transfer all of MPI's assets to the Debtor. As a result, MPI's only asset was its 100% membership in the Debtor. At the time of the transfer, New Meatco had secured indebtedness of approximately \$8 million.
- 28. On or about April 18, 2011, Harouni and the Avisar Trustees caused the Debtor to borrow approximately \$42 million consisting of a \$25 million line of credit from Wells Fargo Bank, a \$3 million term loan from Wells Fargo Bank (together the "Wells Fargo Loan"), and a \$13 million loan from Prospect (the "Prospect Lien Loan") (collectively the "2011 Financing"). The 2011 Financing was secured by all of the Debtor's assets with a first lien in favor of Wells Fargo Bank, and a second subordinated lien in favor of Prospect.
- Also on or about Meatco Acquisition Company, LLC, (the "Purchaser") and Harouni and the Avisar Family Trust (collectively the "Sellers") and Meatco Provisions, Inc., (Meatco) entered into an Interest Purchase Agreement (the "IPA") pursuant to which the proceeds from the 2011 Financing were used in part to buy-out 100% of the Avisar Trustee's stock in MPI (approximately \$15,000,000); and to buy-out a portion, but not all of Harouni's stock holdings in MPI (approximately \$15.1 million) (together the "*Stock Buy-out Transfer*"). The Avisar's sale was accomplished through a repurchase agreement between the Trust and the Debtor. Upon information and belief, Harouni's membership interest was purportedly purchased by MAC, however the funding

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for the purchased originated from the loan proceeds of the 2011 Financing. The balance of the funds were used to retire the Debtor's secured debt obligations that existed at the time.

- 30. As part of the foregoing transaction, MPI sold 80.1% of its interests in the Debtor to MAC for \$5.1 million gross, which amount was later reduced by a post-sale adjustment of approximately \$4.8 million, leaving MAC's equity investment in the Debtor as net \$2.2 million. (the "MAC Acquisition"). The remaining 19.9% interest in the Debtor was still held by MPI, which was wholly owned by Harouni.
- 31. The \$42 million liability incurred by Debtor surpassed the total net worth of Debtor's assets at the time, and therefore, rendered the Debtor insolvent. The Debtor did not receive a reasonably equivalent value for the \$42 million in debt obligations it incurred in order to be able to pay Harouni and Avisar Trust \$30.1 million for their MPI stock, as evidenced by the net \$2.2 million purchase price that MAC paid for its 80.1% interest in the Debtor as heretofore set forth.
- 32. The MAC Acquisition agreements entered into by and between MAC, MPI, and Debtor included certain confidentiality provisions which required the sellers of the company to maintain the confidential information of Debtor. Specifically, section 12.3(b) of the Acquisitiopn Agreement provides:

"Each Seller and the Company further covenant and agree that from and after the Closing Date, not to disclose or use, in any manner, any confidential information related to the Company or the Business..."

33. In addition, in or around April, 2011, MAC, MPI and the Debtor entered into an Operating Agreement which likewise contained confidentiality provisions. The Operating Agreement provides:

"Except with the prior written consent of the Company and as otherwise required by law or regulatory authority, each Member shall, and shall use all reasonable efforts to cause each of its representatives to (a) hold in strict confidence all confidential, proprietary or other non-public information or trade secrets relating to the Company or its Subsidiaries or their respective assets or operations.

C. Post-Acquisition Management of the Debtor

34. Following MAC's acquisition of the Debtor, Defendant Richard L. Mazer was appointed the Chairman of the Board of the Debtor and Defendants Coleman, Fowler, Dewan, and

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- Goldberg were appointed directors along with Harouni. At the same time, Defendants Coleman, Fowler, Goldberg, and Dewan were all appointed to MAC's board of directors.
- 35. At the same time as the above described transactions, in April 2011, Harouni was employed as the President and CEO of the Debtor. At the same time, Harouni and the Debtor entered into a written employment agreement, (the "*Harouni Employment Contract*") setting forth the duties and obligations of Harouni which included non-compete and confidentiality provisions. While employed by Debtor, Harouni owned minority equity interests in third parties, Monarch Trading Company, LLC. ("*Monarch*") and Lawrence Wholesale ("*Lawrence*") both of whom were and are engaged in the same business of the Debtor and were competitors of the Debtor.
- 36. Following MAC's acquisition of Debtor, Fowler accused Harouni of overstating the value of Debtor with respect to the MAC Acquisition, including failure to identify bad debt, ongoing business transactions with vendors who were in breach of credit agreements, and buying practices that resulted in large inventory write-offs.

D. Events Leading Up to the Chapter 11 Filing

- 37. By April 2012, the Debtor was unable to meet certain covenants under its secured loan agreements. Since the Stock Buy-out Transfer, the Debtor had entered into numerous amendments and forbearance agreements with Wells Fargo and Prospect in an effort to address its liquidity and business concerns. Performance, however, continued to decline, and throughout October and November of 2012 the Debtor, Wells Fargo, and Prospect, recommenced workout discussions.
- 38. Effective April 23, 2012, Prospect and Harouni entered into a *Loan Transfer Supplement Agreement* whereby Harouni acquired from Prospect a portion of its rights under the Prospect Lien Loan in the assigned principal amount of \$1,200,000.00 ("*Harouni Lien Loan*"). Concurrently, Calme, as the agent for Prospect, and Harouni entered into a *Subordination Agreement* pursuant to which Harouni subordinated his rights to receive any payments on the Harouni Lien Loan until the Prospect Lien Loan was paid in full.
- 39. Upon information and belief, in or around 2012, Harouni began diverting inventory, employees, and data from the Debtor for his own benefit to Monarch, which was also one of the

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- Debtor's largest creditors. The Debtor's books and records also reflect \$38,500.00 was owed to another Harouni related company, Lawrence.
- 40. In or about November 2012, the Debtor defaulted on its secured loan obligations to Prospect by failing to meet certain covenants, including failing to satisfy its minimum required EBITDA. Around this same time, the Debtor experienced a large decline in its inventory.
- 41. On November 9, 2012, Prospects loan administrator, Calme issued a *Notice of Exercise of Certain Rights Pursuant to Loan Agreement and Collateral Agreements* (the "*Default and Voting Rights Notice*") pursuant to which the Debtor was given notice of events of default under the Prospect Lien Loan. As a result thereof Calme caused to be transferred into its name (for the benefit of Prospect) the pledged equity interests owned by MPI and MAC. All of the rights of MPI and MAC to exercise voting rights under the Debtor's organizational documents were terminated, and these rights were then vested in Calme.
- 42. Effective that same date, November 9, 2012, pursuant to various written consents all then current members of the Board were removed and replaced by Defendants David Moszer and John Kneisley, who were officers of Calme.
- 43. In November 2012, Moser and Kneisley retained an outside consultant, Scouler and Company, LLC, ("Scouler") to assess Debtor's financial condition, viability, and alternatives. In December 2012, Scouler reported that the Debtor was experiencing extensive operational issues impacting the company's viability, all of which can be attributable to Harouni's management, including but not limited to:
- a. *Ineffective Management*. The company's growth was accompanied by increasing layers of complexity, and obtaining the support of more seasoned management was one of the factors that lead the Debtor to enter into the MAC Acquisition.
- b. *Inefficient Warehousing*. Prior to its acquisition, the Debtor operated out of multiple warehouses. In August 2012 the Debtor consolidated its operations into a single, warehouse facility that increased the Debtor's rent by \$400,000 annually.
- c. *Ineffective Inventory Controls*. The Debtor's key warehousing, inventory control, and distribution systems were ineffective, poorly organized, inefficient, and gave the Debtor

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no visibility into, or control over, its inventory. Notwithstanding its new warehouse, these inefficiencies resulted in massive inventory shortfalls, including a \$2 million inventory write off in 2012.

- d. *Inappropriate Inventory Control*. Although the Debtor began soliciting proposals to implement a state-of-the-art enterprise reporting system that would provide it with visibility into and control over its inventory, this project was never completed.
- e. *Spiraling Cost Structure*. Following the MAC Acquisition, salaries increased by \$300,000 annually. Workers' compensation premiums escalated by \$600,000 annually, as a result of the Debtor's correction of certain errors in its reporting. The cost of equipment leases increased by \$800,000 annually as the Debtor acquired additional equipment in connection with the move to its new warehouse, and fuel costs jumped by \$500,000 annually as the new equipment was moved into production. In addition, SG&A increased by \$500,000 annually. In total, these items added \$3.1 million annually to the Debtor's operating costs. Upon information and belief, the new capital investments were made at Mazer's recommendation and with the approval of Coleman and Fowler.
- 44. In January 2013, Daniel Scouler was appointed as the Debtor's Chief Restructuring Officer ("*CRO*"). Scouler initially attempted to stem the Debtor's losses while seeking a going concern sale of the business.
- 45. In January 2013, Flower disclosed by email certain confidential financial information of the Debtor to one of the Debtor's competitors, Rancho Foods and Unified Grocers. The email stated simply: "For your information." Copies of the Default and Voting Rights Notice and Written Consents were attached. Rancho Foods was a customer and competitor of the Debtor. Unified Grocers is a cooperative whose members included numerous customers of the Debtor. The Default and Voting Rights Notice and Written Consents constitute the Debtor's confidential information.
- 46. At the time the emails were sent, Fowler was no longer members of the Debtor's board, but was still subject to the confidentiality agreement. Moreover, Fowler was also one of the managing directors of Annex Capital, who was the managing member of MAC.
- 47. In 2013, despite the CRO's alleged efforts to find a going concern buyer, the Debtor's business continued to decline. Immediately before the shutdown of operations, the CRO had

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- difficulty accessing certain electronic information, encountering computers that were missing or whose data had been deleted, and was unable to locate several key salespeople in the Debtor's seafood division. It was discovered that data files had been wiped totally clean from the computers in the seafood division, that Excel spreadsheets and similar files had also been completely removed from the computers. No other division of Debtor had its computers wiped.
- 48. Upon information and belief, the Debtor's electronic information and sales personnel were later used by Harouni at Harouni's other company Monarch, which prior to the close of Debtor did not operate a seafood division, but after the computer files and personnel were discovered missing began operating a seafood division in direct competition with Debtor.

E. Prospect's Self-Dealing

- 49. In or around late February 2013, a Mexican company called Viz Cattle and/or its subsidiary SuKarne ("Viz Cattle") expressed interest in purchasing the Debtor. Viz Cattle sent five people from Mexico to Debtor's offices to review financial books and records for a week after signing non-disclosure agreements. Harouni was their point of contact during this initial visit. The purpose of Viz Cattle's review was due diligence for a potential purchase of the Debtor.
- 50. A sale of Debtor to Viz Cattle would have benefited both Debtor and its creditors, because the company would have been infused with additional capital and received other operational support it desperately needed.
- 51. Approximately one week after Viz Cattle completed its due diligence, the representatives returned and informed Harouni that they were interested in acquiring Debtor and wanted to commence communications with whoever was in control.
- 52. Harouni informed both Scouler and Mazer on behalf of Prospect of Viz Cattle's interest in purchasing Debtor. However, no one at Prospect, Calme, or even Moszer appeared interested in the potential sale. Instead, Moszer and Scouler both informed Harouni that Prospect had "signed an exclusivity deal with another party." Essentially, Moszer told Harouni that Prospect could not talk to Viz Cattle, because Prospect was pursuing the sale of Debtor to another potential buyer.
- 53. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that, contrary to their representations, that Prospect made no efforts to sell Debtor to any potential buyers, at any time.

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- 54. Plaintiff is informed and believes and on that basis alleges that when Viz Cattle expressed interest in purchasing Debtor, Prospect was already in negotiations, or planning to enter into negotiations, to sell the Prospect Lien Loan (only the remaining portion held by Prospect) to another financial institution, and believed that a sale of Debtor, although likely in the best interest of Debtor and its creditors, would have impeded, devalued, or delayed sale of the Prospect Lien Loan.
- 55. Instead of pursuing a sale of Debtor to a potential buyer, which would have been in the best interest of Debtor and its creditors, Prospect, Moszer, and Scouler instead pursued a sale of only the Prospect Lien Loan, which benefitted only Prospect.
- 56. Ultimately, Prospect sold the Prospect Loan Lien to LAMCP Capital, LLC shortly before Debtor filed for bankruptcy.

F. Harouni Discloses The Debtor's Confidential Information

- 57. Around March 29, 2013, Seafax, a leading credit reporting and collection agency for the North American food industry, downgraded the Debtor's credit rating from "inconclusive" to "cautionary" status. Following this downgrade, the Debtor's major suppliers stopped further shipments of inventory. Without the ability to meet customer orders, the Debtor's customers rapidly turned to competitors and Debtor's sales team resigned. The Debtor was thereupon unable to continue and was forced to cease operations.
- 58. The Seafax report states that it is based, at least in part, on information that Seafax learned from Harouni. The information that Seafax attributed to Harouni included information about a possible change of ownership, information about the Debtor's default with respect to the Prospect Lien Loan and the lenders' Default and Voting Rights Notice under their security agreement, and statements to the effect that the company's lenders "took over operational control of the business."

G. The Debtor Petitions for Bankruptcy

59. Shortly thereafter, on or about May 8, 2013, ("*Petition Date*") the Debtor filed for bankruptcy. At the time of filing, based on the Debtor's books and records, the book value of the Debtor's unaudited balance sheet assets totaled approximately \$894,887.00. These assets consisted of \$42,200.00 in cash on hand, \$849,636.00 in security deposits, and about \$3,000 in office equipment and furnishings.

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1	60. Based on the Debtor's books and records, as of the Petition Date, the Debtor's
2	unaudited, balance sheet liabilities totaled approximately \$39,404,029.00. These liabilities included
3	approximately \$3,949,885.00 in principal and accrued interests owed to Wells Fargo,
4	\$14,129,360.00 in principal and accrued interest owed on the Prospect Lien Loan (now held by
5	LAMCP Capital, LLC), \$5,000,000.00 outstanding under a promissory note in favor of Harouni,
6	\$37,310.00 in priority claims, and \$16,287,474.00 in unsecured claims such as trade vendor and
7	unsecured landlord claims.
8	FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF
9	AVOIDANCE OF FRAUDULENT TRANSFER
10	(As against the Harouni and The Avisar Family Trust)
11	[11 U.S.C. §§ 544, 550; Cal. Civ. Code § 3439.04]
12	61. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the
13	complaint as if set forth herein in full.
14	62. The \$30 million Stock Buy-out Transfer made by Debtor to Harouni and Avisar Trust
15	in or around April 18, 2011, was incurred and made with the intent to hinder, delay, or defraud the
16	creditors of Debtor.
17	63. Accordingly, the Stock Buy-out Transfer made by the Debtor to Harouni and Avisar
18	Trust is avoidable and should be avoided as fraudulent pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 544 and Cal. Civ.
19	Code § 3439.04.
20	SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF
21	RECOVERY OF AVOIDED FRAUDULENT TRANSFER
22	(As against the Harouni and The Avisar Family Trust only)
23	[11 U.S.C. §§ 544, 550; Cal. Civ. Code § 3439.07]
24	64. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 63 of the
25	complaint as if set forth herein in full.
26	65. By reason of the foregoing, the Trustee is entitled to recover for the benefit of the
27	Debtor's estate the \$30 million Stock Buy-out Transfer from the Debtor to Harouni and Avisar Trust
28	pursuant to 11 U.S.C. §§ 544, 550 and Cal. Civ. Code § 3439.07.

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FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

BREACH OF CONTRACT

(As against MAC and DOES 1 through 5 only)

- 72. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full.
- 73. The Operating Agreement constitutes a binding, enforceable agreement between Debtor and MAC. The provisions of the Operating Agreement are also binding and enforceable against Fowler, Coleman, Dewan, Goldberg, and DOES 1 through 5 as a result of their relationship to MAC and Debtor.
- 74. Debtor performed all of its obligations under the Operating Agreement except for those performances which were excused.
- 75. MAC, Fowler, Coleman, Dewan, Goldberg, and DOES 1 through 5, and each of them, breached the Operating Agreement, and in particular the Confidentiality Clause of the Operating Agreement when they, acting in concert with each other, disclosed Debtor's confidential and proprietary information to third parties, including, but not limited to Unified Grocer and Rancho Foods.
- 76. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that MAC, Fowler, Coleman, Dewan, Goldberg, and DOES 1 through 5, and each of them, knew of, agreed with, approved, and/or provided substantial assistance to MAC's and/or Fowler's breach of the Operating Agreement.
- 77. As a direct, proximate result, of MAC, Fowler, Coleman, Dewan, Goldberg, and DOES 1 through 5's breach of the Operating Agreement, Debtor was injured in an amount to be proven at trial.
- 78. The Operating Agreement provides for the payment of attorney fees in the event of suit thereon. Accordingly, the Trustee is entitled to his reasonable attorney fees incurred in the prosecution of this action.

Case 2:13-bk-22155-DS Doc 785 Filed 04/03/15 Entered 04/03/15 14:52:20 Main Document Page 16 of 34 1 SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF 2 **BREACH OF CONTRACT** 3 (As against Defendant Morad Harouni only) 79. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the 4 complaint as if set forth herein in full. 5 80. Harouni entered into the Harouni Employment Contract with Debtor as part of the 6 7 MAC Acquisition. The employment contract contained a non-compete clause. 81. 8 The Harouni Employment Contract constitutes a binding, enforceable agreement between the Debtor and Harouni. 9 Debtor performed all of its obligations under the Harouni Employment Contract 10 82. 11 except for those performances which were excused 83. Harouni breached his obligations owed to the Debtor under the employment 12 13 agreement by, among other things: 14 a. failing to disclose his interests in competitors such as Lawrence Wholesale and other competitors of Debtor while employed by the Debtor; 15 b. transferring assets, customer accounts, and electronic data to Monarch without 16 17 adequate consideration being paid to the Debtor, and in violation of his obligations to preserve the Debtor's assets and not to compete against the 18 19 Debtor vis a vis its business operations. 84. 20 Harouni's conduct as set forth above, was and is a material breach of his contractual obligations owed to the Debtor. 21 85. 22 As a result of Harouni's breach of the Harouni Employment Contract, Debtor was injured in an amount to be proven at trial. 23 86. The Employment Agreement provides for the payment of attorney fees in the event of 24 25 suit thereon. Accordingly, the Trustee is entitled to his reasonable attorney fees incurred in the prosecution of this action. 26 /// 27

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1		SEV	VENTH CLAIM I	FOR RELIEF	
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BREACH OF CONTRACT

BREACH OF CONTRACT

(As against Defendants, Morad Harouni, and DOES 6 through 10 only)

- 87. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full.
- 88. The Operating Agreement constitutes a binding, enforceable agreement between the Debtor and MPI. The provisions of the Operating Agreement are also binding and enforceable against Harouni as a result of his relationship to the Debtor.
- 89. The Debtor performed all of its obligations under the Operating Agreement except for those performances which were excused.
- 90. Harouni, and DOES 6 through 10, and each of them, breached the Operating Agreement, and in particular the Non-Compete Clause of the Operating Agreement when they, acting in concert with each other, allowed Monarch to obtain the sales staff, computer files, vendor and customer accounts and other confidential and proprietary information relating to the seafood division of Debtor.
- 91. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that Harouni and DOES 6 through 10, and each of them, knew of, agreed with, approved, and/or provided substantial assistance to Harouni's breach of the Operating Agreement.
- 92. As a direct, proximate result of Harouni's and DOES 6 through 10's breach of the Operating Agreement, Debtor was injured in an amount to be proven at trial.
- 93. The Operating Agreement provides for the payment of attorney fees in the event of suit thereon. Accordingly, the Trustee is entitled to his reasonable attorney fees incurred in the prosecution of this action.

EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

BREACH OF CONTRACT

(As against Defendants, Morad Harouni, and DOES 6 through 10 only)

94. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full.

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- 95. The Acquisition Agreement is a binding and enforceable agreement between Debtor and MPI. The provisions of the Acquisition Agreement are also binding and enforceable against Harouni and DOES 6 through 10 as a result of their relationship to MPI and the Debtor.
 - 96. The Debtor performed all of its obligations under the Acquisition Agreement except for those performances which were excused.
 - 97. Harouni and DOES 6 through 10, and each of them, breached the Acquisition Agreement, and in particular the Non-Compete Clause of the Acquisition Agreement when they, acting in concert with each other, allowed Monarch to obtain the sales staff, computer files, vendor and customer accounts and other confidential and proprietary information relating to the seafood division of the Debtor
 - 98. Plaintiff is informed and believes and based thereon alleges that Harouni and DOES 6 through 10, and each of them, knew of, agreed with, approved, and/or provided substantial assistance to Harouni's breach of the Acquisition Agreement.
 - 99. As a direct, proximate result of Harouni's and DOES 6 through 10's breach of the Acquisition Agreement, Debtor was injured in an amount to be proven at trial.
 - 100. The Acquisition Agreement provides for the payment of attorney fees in the event of suit thereon. Accordingly, the Trustee is entitled to his reasonable attorney fees incurred in the prosecution of this action.

NINTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY

- (As against Defendants MAC, Mazer, Coleman, Fowler, Dewan, Goldberg, and Harouni only)
- 101. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full.
- 102. As a result of their positions as a managing member, director, and/or officer of the Debtor, MAC, Mazer, Coleman, Fowler, Dewan, Goldberg, and Harouni, and each of them, owed a fiduciary duty to Debtor.
- 103. The Defendants, MAC, Mazer, Coleman, Fowler, Dewan, Goldberg, and Harouni, acting in concert with each other, and in their capacity as the managing member, officer, and/or

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1	director of Debtor, acquired the confidential and proprietary information of Debtor.
2	104. The Defendants, MAC, Mazer, Coleman, Fowler, Dewan, Goldberg, and Harouni,
3	thereafter disclosed the confidential and proprietary information of Debtor to third parties, including
4	but not limited to, third party competitors and customers, Unified Grocer, Rancho Foods, and Seafax
5	for the benefit of the Defendants and to the detriment of the Debtor.
6	105. Such disclosures of the Debtor's confidential and proprietary information by MAC,
7	Mazer, Coleman, Fowler, Dewan, Goldberg, and Harouni, was a failure by MAC, Mazer, Coleman,
8	Fowler, Dewan, Goldberg, and Harouni, to act as a reasonably careful managing member, officer
9	and/or director would have acted under the same or similar circumstances.
10	106. As a result of such disclosures, the Debtor was harmed in an amount to be proven at
11	trial.
12	107. Defendants conduct as described herein was willful, wanton and intentional, and
13	accordingly Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages on this claim for relief in a sum to be
14	determined at the time of trial of this matter.
15	TENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF
15 16	TENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY
16	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY
16 17	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY (As against Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley only)
16 17 18	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY (As against Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley only) 108. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the
16 17 18 19	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY (As against Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley only) 108. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full.
16 17 18 19 20	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY (As against Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley only) 108. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full. 109. As a result of their positions as a managing member, director, and/or officer of the
16 17 18 19 20 21	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY (As against Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley only) 108. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full. 109. As a result of their positions as a managing member, director, and/or officer of the Debtor, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, and each of them, owed a fiduciary duty to Debtor.
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY (As against Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley only) 108. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full. 109. As a result of their positions as a managing member, director, and/or officer of the Debtor, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, and each of them, owed a fiduciary duty to Debtor. 110. The Defendants, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, acting in concert with each other, and
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY (As against Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley only) 108. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full. 109. As a result of their positions as a managing member, director, and/or officer of the Debtor, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, and each of them, owed a fiduciary duty to Debtor. 110. The Defendants, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, acting in concert with each other, and in their capacity as the managing member, officer, and/or director of Debtor failed to safeguard the
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY (As against Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley only) 108. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full. 109. As a result of their positions as a managing member, director, and/or officer of the Debtor, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, and each of them, owed a fiduciary duty to Debtor. 110. The Defendants, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, acting in concert with each other, and in their capacity as the managing member, officer, and/or director of Debtor failed to safeguard the confidential and proprietary information of the Debtor, and/or to take reasonable steps to ensure that
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY (As against Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley only) 108. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full. 109. As a result of their positions as a managing member, director, and/or officer of the Debtor, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, and each of them, owed a fiduciary duty to Debtor. 110. The Defendants, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, acting in concert with each other, and in their capacity as the managing member, officer, and/or director of Debtor failed to safeguard the confidential and proprietary information of the Debtor, and/or to take reasonable steps to ensure that the confidential and proprietary information of the Debtor was protected from disclosure to third

- Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, to act as a reasonably careful managing member, officer and/or director would have acted under the same or similar circumstances.
- 112. As a result of such failure to protect and safeguard the Debtor's confidential and proprietary information, Debtor was harmed in an amount to be proven at trial.
- 113. Defendants conduct as described herein was willful, wanton and intentional, and accordingly Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages on this claim for relief in a sum to be determined at the time of trial of this matter.

ELEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY

(As against Defendants Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley only)

- 114. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the complaint as if set forth herein in full.
- 115. The Defendants, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, assumed control of Debtor by exercise of rights under the Default and Voting Rights Notice served on MAC and Debtor on or about November 9, 2012.
- 116. Despite the dire financial condition and operational problems that Debtor had suffered since the MAC Acquisition, the Defendants, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, refused to even consider a buy-out offer from Viz Cattle in early 2013, let alone actively market the Debtor for a going concern sale.
- 117. Instead, in March 2013, the Defendants, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, entered into an agreement with third party LAMCP Capital, LLC, whereby Calme sold 100% of Prospect's remaining interest in Debtor, (the Prospect Lien Loan), for a significant discount.
- 118. The Defendants' sale of the Prospect Lien Loan at a time when the Debtor was suffering financial difficulties to the point of preparing for bankruptcy was a failure by Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley to act as a reasonably careful managing member, officer and/or director would have acted under the same or similar circumstances.
- 119. As a result of the Defendants' actions in selling the Prospect Lien Loan, Debtor was harmed in an amount to be proven at trial.

Case 2:13-bk-22155-DS Doc 785 Filed 04/03/15 Entered 04/03/15 14:52:20 Desc Main Document Page 21 of 34 120. Defendants conduct as described herein was willful, wanton and intentional, and 1 accordingly Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages on this claim for relief in a sum to be 2 3 determined at the time of trial of this matter. TWELFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF 4 BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY 5 (As against Defendant Morad Harouni only) 6 7 121. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the 8 complaint as if set forth herein in full. 9 122. As a result of his position as a managing member, director, and/or officer of Debtor, 10 Harouni owed a fiduciary duty to the Debtor. 11 123. Harouni, acting in his capacity as the managing member, officer, and/or director of Debtor had access to and control over the seafood division of Debtor. 12 124. 13 Harouni failed to act as a reasonably careful managing member, officer and/or director would act by causing or allowing Monarch to acquire the Debtor's seafood division sales 14 15 staff, computer files, vendor and customer accounts, and otherwise using the Debtor's confidential and proprietary information to compete in the seafood distribution business. 16 125. 17 By his failure to protect against or otherwise allow Monarch to acquire the Debtor's sales staff, computer files, vendor and customer accounts, and other confidential and proprietary 18 19 information, Harouni failed to act as a reasonably careful managing member, officer and/or director 20 would have acted under the same or similar circumstances. As a result of Harouni's acts or failure to act, Debtor was harmed in an amount to be 21 126. 22 proven at trial. 127. Defendants conduct as described herein was willful, wanton and intentional, and 23 accordingly Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages on this claim for relief in a sum to be 24 25 determined at the time of trial of this matter.

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1	THIRTEENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF
2	BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY
3	(As against Defendant Morad Harouni only)
4	128. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the
5	complaint as if set forth herein in full.
6	129. Harouni, acting in his capacity as the managing member, officer, and/or director of
7	Debtor had access to and control over confidential and proprietary information of the Debtor.
8	130. Harouni's disclosure of confidential and proprietary information about Debtor's
9	financial condition to Seafax was a failure to act as a reasonably careful managing member, officer
10	and/or director would have acted under the same or similar circumstances.
11	131. Harouni's disclosure of the Debtor's financial trouble resulted in competitor
12	companies taking business away from the Debtor at a time when Debtor was having financial
13	difficulties and could ill afford to lose any business.
14	132. As a result of Harouni's acts or failure to act, Debtor was harmed in an amount to be
15	proven at trial.
16	133. Defendants conduct as described herein was willful, wanton and intentional, and
17	accordingly Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages on this claim for relief in a sum to be
18	determined at the time of trial of this matter.
19	FOURTEENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF
20	<u>NEGLIGENCE</u>
21	(As against Harouni, MAC, Fowler, Mazer, Coleman, Goldberg, Dewan, Calme,
22	Moszer and Kneisley only)
23	134. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the
24	complaint as if set forth herein in full.
25	135. The Defendants, Harouni, MAC, Fowler, Mazer, Coleman, Goldberg, Dewan, Calme,
26	Moszer, and Kneisley, and each of them, as a result of their position with Debtor, owed a duty of
27	care to the Debtor.
28	136. The Defendants, Harouni, MAC, Fowler, Mazer, Coleman, Goldberg, Dewan, Calme,

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1	Moszer, and Kneisley, and each of them, breached their duty of care to Debtor by acting negligently
2	in one or more of the following ways:
3	a. By failing to provide safeguards and protection for the Debtor's confidential
4	and proprietary information, and specifically from preventing the disclosure of such confidential and
5	proprietary information by the former members, officers, and/or directors of Debtor to third parties;
6	b. By failing to take adequate measures to recover the confidential and
7	proprietary information of the Debtor from its former members, officers, and/or directors upon the
8	disassociation of said former members, officers, and/or directors.
9	c. By failing to obtain confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements with the
10	Debtor's sales staff following their disassociation from Debtor;
11	d. By causing and or allowing Debtor's confidential and proprietary information
12	to be disclosed to third parties such as Seafax;
13	e. By selling the Prospect Lien Loan to third party LAMCP Capital, LLC; and
14	f. By causing and/or allowing Monarch to acquire the Debtor's seafood division
15	sales staff, computer files, vendor and customer accounts and other confidential and proprietary
16	information related thereto.
17	137. As a direct and proximate result of The Defendants' Harouni, MAC, Fowler, Mazer,
18	Coleman, Goldberg, Dewan, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, negligence, Debtor has been harmed in
19	an amount to be proven at trial.
20	138. Defendants conduct as described herein was willful, wanton and intentional, and
21	accordingly Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages on this claim for relief in a sum to be
22	determined at the time of trial of this matter.
23	FIFTEENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF
24	GROSS NEGLIGENCE
25	(As against Harouni, MAC, Fowler, Mazer, Coleman, Goldberg, Dewan, Calme,
26	Moszer and Kneisley only)
27	139. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the
28	complaint as if set forth herein in full

- 1 140. The Defendants, Harouni, MAC, Fowler, Mazer, Coleman, Goldberg, Dewan, Calme,
 2 Moszer, and Kneisley, and each of them, as a result of their position with the Debtor, owed a duty of
 3 care to Debtor.
 - 141. The Defendants, Harouni, MAC, Fowler, Mazer, Coleman, Goldberg, Dewan, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, and each of them, breached their duty of care to Debtor by demonstrating a lack of any care for Debtor or by their actions and failures to act which acts or failures to act were an extreme departure from what a reasonably careful person would do in the same or similar situation as demonstrated by one or more of the following:
 - a. By failing to provide safeguards and protection for the Debtor's confidential and proprietary information, and specifically from preventing the disclosure of such confidential and proprietary information by the former members, officers, and/or directors of Debtor to third parties;
 - b. By failing to take adequate measures to recover the confidential and proprietary information of the Debtor from its former members, officers, and/or directors upon the disassociation of said former members, officers, and/or directors.
 - c. By failing to obtain confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements with the Debtor's sales staff following their disassociation from Debtor;
 - d. By causing and or allowing Debtor's confidential and proprietary information to be disclosed to third parties such as Seafax;
 - e. By selling the Prospect Lien Loan to third party LAMCP Capital, LLC; and
 - f. By causing and/or allowing Monarch to acquire the Debtor's seafood division sales staff, computer files, vendor and customer accounts and other confidential and proprietary information related thereto.
 - 142. As a proximate result of The Defendants' Harouni, MAC, Fowler, Mazer, Coleman, Goldberg, Dewan, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, gross negligence, Debtor has been harmed in an amount to be proven at trial.
 - 143. Defendants conduct as described herein was willful, wanton and intentional, and accordingly Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages on this claim for relief in a sum to be determined at the time of trial of this matter.

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1	SIXTEENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF	
2	CONVERSION	
3	(As against Harouni)	
4	144. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference paragraphs 1 through 60 of the	he
5	complaint as if set forth herein in full.	
6	145. Within the last four years, Harouni exerted dominion and control over the assets	of
7	he Debtor, including but not limited to obtaining its electronic data information, sales information	n,
8	and accounts converting the same for his own personal benefit and that of other companies in which	ch
9	ne had an ownership interest.	
10	146. As a result of the Harouni's conduct as set forth above, the Debtor was damaged in	an
11	amount to be proved at trial but believe to be in excess of \$5 million.	
12	147. Harouni's conduct in converting the Debtor's assets as heretofore described was n	ot
13	with malice, oppression, and/or fraud in acting or failing to act, and as a result Debtor is entitled	to
14	punitive damages in an amount to be proven at trial.	
15	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief as follows:	
16	AS TO THE FIRST AND THIRD CLAIMS FOR RELIEF (Fraudulent Conveyances):	
17	1. Avoidance of the Stock Buy-out Transfer by Debtor to Harouni and the Avisar Trust	t;
18	2. Such preliminary and permanent relief as the Court may deem just and proper; and	
19	3. For such further and other relief as the Court deems just and appropriate.	
20	AS TO THE SECOND AND FOURTH CLAIMS FOR RELIEF (Fraudulent Conveyance):	
21	1. Recovery of the Stock Buy-out Transfer funds or judgment for the amount of the	he
22	Stock Buy-out Transfer by Debtor to Harouni and the Avisar Trust in the amount of \$30,043,750.00	Э.
23	2. For such further and other relief as the Court deems just and appropriate.	
24	AS TO THE FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH CLAIMS FOR RELIEF (Breach	<u>of</u>
25	Contract):	
26	1. For compensatory damages against Harouni, MAC, Fowler, Goldberg, Dewa	.n,

Mazer, Calme, Moszer, and Kneisley, and in favor of Plaintiff in an amount according to proof

before entry of judgment.

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1	2.	For reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred.
2	3.	For such further and other relief as the Court deems just and appropriate.
3	AS TO THE	NINTH, TENTH, ELEVENTH, TWELTH AND THIRTEEN CLAIMS FOR
4	RELIEF CL	AIMS FOR RELIEF (Breach of Fiduciary Duty):
5	1.	For damages according to proof.
6	2.	For general damages according to proof.
7	3.	For punitive damages according to proof.
8	AS TO THE	FOURTEENTH AND FIFTEENTH CLAIMS FOR RELIEF (Negligence):
9	1.	For damages according to proof.
10	2.	For general damages according to proof.
11	AS TO THE	EIGHTEENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Conversion):
12	1.	For damages according to proof.
13	2.	For general damages according to proof.
14	3.	For punitive damages according to proof.
15	DATED: Apr	1 3, 2015 EZRA BRUTZKUS GUBNER LLP
16		/s/ Larry W. Gabriel
17		By: Steven T. Gubner
18		Larry Gabriel
19		Reagan E. Boyce Attorneys for, Howard Grobstein, Liquidating Trustee
20		for the New Meatco Liquidating Trust
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Case 2:13-bk-22155-DS Doc 785 Filed 04/03/15 Entered 04/03/15 14:52:20 Desc Main Document Page 27 of 34 DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL AND CONSENT TO ENTRY OF FINAL JUDGMENT BY **THE BANKRUTPCY COURT** Plaintiff Howard Grobstein, Liquidating Trustee for the New Meatco Liquidating Trust hereby demands a trial by jury on all causes of action and issues so triable. Plaintiff consents to the entry of final judgment by the bankruptcy court. DATED: April 3, 2015 EZRA BRUTZKUS GUBNER LLP /s/ Larry W. Gabriel By:_ Steven T. Gubner Larry Gabriel Reagan E. Boyce Attorneys for, Howard Grobstein, Liquidating Trustee for the New Meatco Liquidating Trust

FORM B104 (08/07)		2007 USBC, Central District of California
ADVERSARY PROCEEDING COVER SHEET		ADVERSARY PROCEEDING NUMBER
(Instructions on Page 2)		(Court Use Only)
PLAINTIFFS	DEFENDA	NTS
HOWARD GROBSTEIN, LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE FOR THE NEW MEATCO LIQUIDATING TRUST,	AVISAR trustees SUSAN PROVIS ROBER ALEXAN RICK M. GOLDB an individual COMPA compan CORPO CALME corporat JOHN K	HAROUNI, an individual; THE FAMILY TRUST, by and through its FAMILY TRUST, an individual; MEATCO SIONS, INC. a California corporation; TA. FOWLER, an individual; NDER P. COLEMAN, an individual; AZUR, an individual; JOSHUA ERG, an individual; AMANT DEWAN, idual; MEATCO ACQUISITION INY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability y; PROSPECT CAPITAL PRATION, a Maryland corporation; HOLDINGS, INC., a Delaware tion; DAVID MOSZER, an individual; INEISLEY, an individual; and DOES 1 10, inclusive,
ATTORNEYS (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone No.)	ATTORNE	YS (If Known)
Ezra Brutzkus Gubner LLP 21650 Oxnard Street, Suite 500		
Woodland Hills, CA 91367		
(818) 827-9000		
PARTY (Check One Box Only) Debtor U.S. Trustee/Bankruptcy Admin Creditor Other Trustee	PARTY (CI Debto Credite Truste	or 🗵 Other
CAUSE OF ACTION (WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUS	SE OF ACTIO	ON, INCLUDING ALL U.S. STATUTES INVOLVED)
Complaint 1) TO AVOID FRAUDULENT TRANS FRAUDULENT TRANSFER (CONSTRUCTIVE I TRANSFERS; 4) BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUT NEGLIGENCE; 7) GROSS NEGLIGENCE; 8) C	FRAUD) : ΓΥ; 5) BR	3) TO RECOVER FRAUDULENT EACH OF CONTRACT; 6)
NATURE OF SUIT (Number up to five (5) boxes starting with alternative cause as 3, etc.)	lead cause o	of action as 1, first alternative cause as 2, second
FRBP 7001(1) – Recovery of Money/Property 11-Recovery of money/property - §542 turnover of property 12-Recovery of money/property - §547 preference 1 13-Recovery of money/property - §548 fraudulent transfer 2 14-Recovery of money/property – other	61-Dis 68-Dis 63-Dis 64-Dis obligation(c	O1(6) – Dischargeability (continued) chargeability - §523(a)(5), domestic support chargeability - §523(a)(6), willful and malicious injury chargeability - §523(a)(8), student loan chargeability - §523(a)(15), divorce or separation other than domestic support)
FRBP 7001(2) – Validity, Priority or Extent of Lien 21-Validity, priority or extent of lien or other interest in property	FRBP 700	chargeability - other 11(7) – Injunctive Relief nctive relief – imposition of stay
FRBP 7001(3) – Approval of Sale of Property	72-Inju	nctive relief – other

31-Approval of sale of property of estate and of a co-owner - §363(h)	FRBP 7001(8) Subordination of Claim or Interest 81-Subordination of claim or interest
FRBP 7001(4) – Objection/Revocation of Discharge 41-Objection / revocation of discharge - §727(c),(d),(e)	FRBP 7001(9) Declaratory Judgment 91-Declaratory judgment
FRBP 7001(5) – Revocation of Confirmation 51-Revocation of confirmation	FRBP 7001(10) Determination of Removed Action 01-Determination of removed claim or cause
FRBP 7001(6) – Dischargeability 66-Dischargeability - §523(a)(1),(14),(14A) priority tax claims 62-Dischargeability - §523(a)(2), false pretenses, false representation, actual fraud 67-Dischargeability - §523(a)(4), fraud as fiduciary, embezzlement, larceny (continued next column)	Other SS-SIPA Case – 15 U.S.C. §§78aaa et. seq. 3 02-Other (e.g. other actions that would have been brought in state court if unrelated to bankruptcy case)
Check if this case involves a substantive issue of state law	Check if this is asserted to be a class action under FRCP 23
Check if a jury trial is demanded in complaint	Demand \$ To be determined
Other Relief Sought	

FORM B104 (08/07), page 2

2007 USBC, Central District of California

BANKRUPTCY CASE IN WHICH THIS ADVERSARY PROCEEDING ARISES				
NAME OF DEBTOR		BANKRUPTCY CAS	SE NO.	
New Meatco Provisions, LLC		2:13-bk-22155-DS		
DISTRICT IN WHICH CASE IS PENDING	DIVISIONAL OFFICE		NAME OF JUDGE	
Central District of California	Los Angeles Di	vision	The Honorable Deborah J.	
			Saltzman	
RELA ⁻	TED ADVERSARY	PROCEEDING (I	F ANY)	
PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT		ADVERSARY PROCEEDING NO.	
Lawin	DEFENDANT ADVERSARY PROCEEDING NO.		ADVERSART FROCEDING NO.	
DISTRICT IN WHICH ADVERSARY IS PENDING	DIVISIONAL OFFICE		NAME OF JUDGE	
SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (OR PLAINTIFF)				
/s/ Larry W. Gabriel				
DATE	_		TTORNEY (OR PLAINTIFF)	
4/3/2015		Ezra Brutzkus	•	
		By: Larry W. G	Babriel	

INSTRUCTIONS

The filing of a bankruptcy case creates an "estate" under the jurisdiction of the bankruptcy court which consists of all of the property of the debtor, wherever that property is located. Because the bankruptcy estate is so extensive and the jurisdiction of the court so broad, there may be lawsuits over the property or property rights of the estate. There also may be lawsuits concerning the debtor's discharge. If such a lawsuit is filed in a bankruptcy court, it is called an adversary proceeding.

A party filing an adversary proceeding must also must complete and file Form 104, the Adversary Proceeding Cover Sheet, unless the party files the adversary proceeding electronically through the court's Case Management/Electronic Case Filing system (CM/ECF). (CM/ECF captures the information on Form

104 as part of the filing process.) When completed, the cover sheet summarizes basic information on the adversary proceeding. The clerk of court needs the information to process the adversary proceeding and prepare required statistical reports on court activity.

The cover sheet and the information contained on it do not replace or supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, the Bankruptcy Rules, or the local rules of court. The cover sheet, which is largely self explanatory, must be completed by the plaintiff's attorney (or by the plaintiff if the plaintiff is not represented by an attorney). A separate cover sheet must be submitted to the clerk for each complaint filed.

Plaintiffs and **Defendants.** Give the names of the plaintiffs and defendants exactly as they appear on the complaint.

Attorneys. Give the names and addresses of the attorneys, if known.

Party. Check the most appropriate box in the first column for the plaintiffs and the second column for the defendants.

Demand. Enter the dollar amount being demanded in the complaint.

Signature. This cover sheet must be signed by the attorney of record in the box on the second page of the form. If the plaintiff is represented by a law firm, a member of the firm must sign. If the plaintiff is pro se, that is, not presented by an attorney, the plaintiff must sign.

Attorney or Party Name, Address, Telephone & FAX Nos., State Bar No. & Email Address	FOR COURT USE ONLY	
STEVEN T. GUBNER - Bar No. 156593 LARRY W. GABRIEL - Bar No. 68329 REAGAN E. BOYCE - Bar No. 248064		
EZRA BRUTZKUS GUBNER LLP 21650 Oxnard Street, Suite 500		
Woodland Hills, CA 91367		
Telephone: (818) 827-9000		
Facsimile: (818) 827-9099		
Email: sgubner@ebg-law.com; lgabrial@ebg-law.com; rboyce@ebg-law.com		
Howard Grobstein, Liquidating Trustee for		
Attorney for Plaintiff the New Meatco Liquidating Trust		
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA - LOS ANGELES DIVISION		
In re:	CASE NO.: 2:13-bk-22155-DS	
NEW MEATCO PROVISIONS, LLC,	CHAPTER: 11	
Debtor(s).	ADVERSARY NUMBER:	
HOWARD GROBSTEIN, LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE FOR THE NEW MEATCO LIQUIDATING TRUST,		
Plaintiff(s) Versus	SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF STATUS CONFERENCE IN ADVERSARY PROCEEDING [LBR 7004-1]	
MORAD HAROUNI, an individual;	[LBK 7004-1]	
[See Attachment A for names of additional defendants] Defendant(s)		
your written response on the party shown in the upper left-	n response to the Complaint. You must also serve a copy of hand corner of this page. The deadline to file and serve a le and serve the response, the court may enter a judgment by	
A status conference in the adversary proceeding commend	ced by the Complaint has been set for:	
Hearing Date: Place:		
	ast Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012	
Oodi ti ooiii.	Fwelfth Street, Riverside, CA 92501	
	est Fourth Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101	
	Burbank Boulevard, Woodland Hills, CA 91367	

You must comply with LBR 7016-1, which requires you to file a joint status report and to appear at a status conference. All parties must read and comply with the rule, even if you are representing yourself. You must cooperate with the other parties in the case and file a joint status report with the court and serve it on the appropriate parties at least 14 days before a status conference. A court-approved joint status report form is available on the court's website (LBR form F 7016-1.1) with an attachment for additional parties if necessary (LBR form F 7016-1.1a). If the other parties do not cooperate in filing a joint status report, you still must file with the court a unilateral status report and the accompanying required declaration instead of a joint status report 7 days before the status conference. The court may fine you or impose other sanctions if you do not file a status report. The court may also fine you or impose other sanctions if you fail to appear at a status conference.

KATHLEEN J. CAMPBELL CLERK OF COURT

Date of Issuance of Summons and Notice of Status Conferen	nce in Adversary Proceeding:
	By: Deputy Clerk

ATTACHMENT A

Names of Plaintiffs and Defendants

Plaintiff(s):

HOWARD GROBSTEIN, LIQUIDATING TRUSTEE FOR THE NEW MEATCO LIQUIDATING TRUST,

Defendant(s):

MORAD HAROUNI, an individual THE AVISAR FAMILY TRUST, by and through its trustees, EYTAN AVISAR, an individual, and SUSAN AVISAR, an individual MEATCO PROVISIONS, INC. a California corporation ROBERT A. FOWLER, an individual ALEXANDER P. COLEMAN, an individual RICK MAZUR, an individual JOSHUA GOLDBERG, an individual AMANT DEWAN, an individual MEATCO ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company PROSPECT CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Maryland corporation CALME HOLDINGS, INC., a Delaware corporation DAVID MOSZER, an individual JOHN KNEISLEY, an individual and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive

PROOF OF SERVICE OF DOCUMENT

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding. My business address is:

Date Printed Name	Signature
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United S	States that the foregoing is true and correct.
	Service information continued on attached page
3. <u>SERVED BY PERSONAL DELIVERY, OVERNIGHT MAIL, for each person or entity served</u>): Pursuant to F.R.Civ.P. 5 and/the following persons and/or entities by personal delivery, overn such service method), by facsimile transmission and/or email as that personal delivery on, or overnight mail to, the judge will be offiled.	for controlling LBR, on (date), I served ight mail service, or (for those who consented in writing to follows. Listing the judge here constitutes a declaration
2. SERVED BY UNITED STATES MAIL: On (date), I served the following persons and case or adversary proceeding by placing a true and correct copy first class, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows. Listing the udge will be completed no later than 24 hours after the docume	ne judge here constitutes a declaration that mailing to the
manner required by LBR 5005-2(d); and (b) in the manner state. 1. TO BE SERVED BY THE COURT VIA NOTICE OF ELECTE. Orders and LBR, the foregoing document will be served by the court.	RONIC FILING (NEF): Pursuant to controlling General court via NEF and hyperlink to the document. On (date) ruptcy case or adversary proceeding and determined that
A true and correct copy of the foregoing document entitled: St ADVERSARY PROCEEDING [LBR 7004-1] will be served or v	